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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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| 10/789,280 | 02/27/2004 | Jon Washington | D-1209 | 8196 |
| 28995 | 7590 | 11/02/2005 | EXAMINER | |
| RALPH E. JOCKE walker & jocke LPA 231 SOUTH BROADWAY MEDINA, OH 44256 | | | PAIK, STEVE S | |
| | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
| | | | 2876 | |

DATE MAILED: 11/02/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/789,280

Applicant(s)

WASHINGTON ET AL.

Examiner

Steven S. Paik

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2876

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 August 2005.
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 45-63 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 45-63 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 27 February 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

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DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Receipt is acknowledged of the Appeal Brief filed August 22, 2005. Applicant's request for reconsideration and the argument about the rejection of the last Office action is persuasive and, therefore, the finality of that action is withdrawn. Any delay is regretted.
2. In view of the Appeal Brief filed on August 22, 2005, PROSECUTION IS HEREBY REOPENED. New grounds of Rejections are set forth below.

To avoid abandonment of the application, appellant must exercise one of the following two options:

(1) file a reply under 37 CFR 1.111 (if this Office action is non-final) or a reply under 37 CFR 1.113 (if this Office action is final); or,

(2) initiate a new appeal by filing a notice of appeal under 37 CFR 41.31 followed by an appeal brief under 37 CFR 41.37. The previously paid notice of appeal fee and appeal brief fee can be applied to the new appeal. If, however, the appeal fees set forth in 37 CFR 41.20 have been increased since they were previously paid, then appellant must pay the difference between the increased fees and the amount previously paid.

A Supervisory Patent Examiner (SPE) has approved of reopening prosecution by signing below:



Michael G. Lee
SPE, AU 2876

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claim 49 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Awatsu et al. (US 5,900,607).

Re claim 49, Awatsu et al. disclose a cash handling apparatus (3; Figs. 1-4) including:

a cassette (cash safe 2 in Fig. 7), wherein the cassette is adapted for use in an automated banking machine (cash handling apparatus; ATM 3 in Fig. 4), wherein the cassette is operative to hold media (cash) therein, wherein the cassette includes a lock (236 in Fig. 8 and col. 10, line 66- col. 11, line 10), wherein the lock includes a movable locking member (electromagnetic lock 236), wherein the locking member is movable between a locked position and a unlocked position (there is a sensor 237 for detecting the opening of the safe door 25 and the reject door 24), wherein with the locking member in the locked position the cassette is prevented from being opened, wherein with the locking member in the unlocked position the cassette is operative to be opened (Fig. 33; col. 20, ll. 10-63), an electronic lock control (key input section 28 in Fig. 7 and see Fig. 32A-32B), wherein the electronic lock control includes an electronic programmable combination receiving member (key input section 28), wherein the combination receiving member is operative to receive a lock combination comprising a sequence of inputs (such as PIN input process), wherein the electronic lock control is operative to move the locking

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member to the unlocked position responsive to the combination entered into the combination receiving member (step 34 Fig. 32A and 33), wherein the electronic lock control is operative to receive input via the combination receiving member to change the lock combination (The lock combination can only be changed via the key input section 28 in the Awatsu reference if a user desires to change the lock combination since the key input section is the only means for inputting in Fig. 7. Furthermore, if a Personal Identification Number is not changeable, then the cash safe 2 would not be referred as a personal safe 20. see Fig. 15 and col. 12, line 26 – col. 13, line 35).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 1, 45-48, 53, 55-59, 61, and 62 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Awatsu et al. (US 5,900,607) in view of Kasper (US 6,257,154).

Re claims 1 and 56-58, as discussed above, Awatsu et al. disclose a cash handling apparatus (3; Figs. 1-4) including a cassette (cash safe 2 in Fig. 7), wherein the cassette is adapted for use in an automated banking machine (cash handling apparatus; ATM 3 in Fig. 4), wherein the cassette is operative to hold media (cash) therein, wherein the cassette includes a lock (236 in Fig. 8 and col. 10, line 66- col. 11, line 10), wherein the lock includes a movable locking member (electromagnetic lock 236), wherein the locking member is movable between a locked position and a unlocked position (there is a sensor 237 for detecting the opening of the safe door 25 and the reject door 24), wherein with the locking member in the locked position the

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cassette is prevented from being opened, wherein with the locking member in the unlocked position the cassette is operative to be opened (Fig. 33; col. 20, ll. 10-63), an electronic lock control (key input section 28 in Fig. 7 and see Fig. 32A-32B), wherein the electronic lock control includes an electronic programmable combination receiving member (key input section 28), wherein the combination receiving member is operative to receive a lock combination comprising a sequence of inputs (such as PIN input process), wherein the electronic lock control is operative to move the locking member to the unlocked position responsive to the combination entered into the combination receiving member (step 34 Fig. 32A and 33), wherein the electronic lock control is operative to receive input via the combination receiving member to change the lock combination (The lock combination can only be changed via the key input section 28 in the Awatsu reference if a user desires to change the lock combination since the key input section is the only means for inputting in Fig. 7. Furthermore, if a Personal Identification Number is not changeable, then the cash safe 2 would not be referred as a personal safe 20. see Fig. 15 and col. 12, line 26 – col. 13, line 35).

However, Asatsu is silent about an automated banking machine chest having a chest lock that controls access to the chest.

Kasper discloses a cabinet having a lock assembly. The cabinet includes a top panel, a first side panel, a second side panel, a rear panel, an interior base panel and a door which together define an interior cavity (Fig. 3). The cabinet further includes a platform (77) and a lock assembly (11) which includes a lock (13), a key (15), and a tool (17). Although the platform is not essential, it may be used store a desired object with a particular size and shape. The object may be obviously a media cassette when the cabinet with the lock is used as a

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currency changer, an automatic bank tellers or any other similar application where it is desirable to lock the access door of a cabinet, box or similar device. With the assistance of the platform, the cabinet is capable of storing a plurality of media cassettes with a separate lock. This structure would be advantageous to store currency with different denomination in a separate media cassette with enhanced security of the contents stored therein.

In view of Kasper's teaching, it would have been obvious to an artisan of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to further incorporate the cabinet structure comprising a plurality of compartment with a door lock in addition to the media cassettes of Awatsu et al. due to the fact that an operator of ATM can separately manage each media cassettes by using a control and an electromagnet lock attached on each media cassette and improve security of the media cassettes by storing them in a cabinet, box (chest) or similar device with another lock.

Re claims 45 and 59, Awatsu et al. in view of Kasper discloses the apparatus and method as recited in rejected claims 1 and 58 stated above, wherein the keypad (28 in Fig. 7 of Awatsu) is operative to receive a lock combination, wherein the combination comprises a sequence of inputs (such as PIN input processes), and wherein the electronic lock control is operative to move the locking member to the unlocked position responsive to the combination entered into the keypad (step 34 Fig. 32A and 33).

Re claim 46, Awatsu et al. in view of Kasper discloses the apparatus and method as recited in rejected claim 45 stated above, wherein the keypad includes an electronic programmable keypad (28).

Re claim 47, Awatsu et al. in view of Kasper discloses the apparatus and method as recited in rejected claim 46 stated above, wherein the electronic lock control is operative to

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receive input to change the lock combination (The lock combination can only be changed via the key input section 28 in the Awatsu reference if a user desires to change the lock combination since the key input section is the only means for inputting in Fig. 7. Furthermore, if a Personal Identification Number is not changeable, then the cash safe 2 would not be referred as a personal safe 20. see Fig. 15 and col. 12, line 26 – col. 13, line 35).

Re claim 48, Awatsu et al. in view of Kasper discloses the apparatus and method as recited in rejected claim 47 stated above, wherein the combination includes multiple combinations of numbers (Fig. 17-23 discloses that the electronic lock 308 further includes a lock control circuit 317 for controlling one or more locks of the safe. It is fairly suggested that user's ID or PIN may be modified in accordance with user's need).

Re claim 53, Awatsu et al. in view of Kasper discloses the apparatus and method as recited in rejected claim 45 stated above, wherein the keypad includes plural buttons, wherein the keypad is operative to receive the combination via the buttons (see Fig. 7 of Awatsu).

Re claim 55, Awatsu et al. in view of Kasper discloses the apparatus and method as recited in rejected claim 53 stated above, wherein the cassette includes an LCD panel (display 27).

Re claims 61 and 62, Awatsu et al. in view of Kasper discloses the apparatus and method as recited in rejected claim 55 stated above, wherein the electronic lock control (317) includes an electronic programmable keypad and further including changing the combination via key pad (The lock combination can only be changed via the key input section 28 in the Awatsu reference if a user desires to change the lock combination since the key input section is the only means for inputting in Fig. 7. Furthermore, if a Personal Identification Number is not changeable, then the

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cash safe 2 would not be referred as a personal safe 20. see Fig. 15 and col. 12, line 26 – col. 13, line 35) for each cassettes having a different combination. (Fig. 17-23 discloses that the electronic lock 308 further includes a lock control circuit 317 for controlling one or more locks of the safe. It is fairly suggested that user's ID or PIN may be modified in accordance with user's need).

7. Claims 54 and 60 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Awatsu et al. (US 5,900,607) as modified by Kasper (US 6,257,154) as applied to claims 53 and 58 above, and further in view of Black (US 6,786,354 B2).

The teachings of Awatsu et al. in view of Kasper have been fully discussed above with the exception of explicitly showing a keypad including an LED adjacent each button.

Black discloses a media cassette (10) including a plurality of LEDs (50a-50e) for communicating a status of the cassette to an external viewer. It is conventional and well known in the art, that an LED may be used in an electronic circuit to indicate a status of an input or an output.

Therefore, it would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to have selected an LED as taught by Black into the teachings of Awatsu et al. as modified by Kasper for the purpose of communicating a user a status of a media cassette or sequence of inputs to ensure proper operation of the media cassettes.

8. Claims 50-52 and 63 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Awatsu et al. (US 5,900,607) as modified by Kasper (US 6,257,154) as applied to claims 49 and 58 above, and further in view of Kuel et al. (GB 2,202,066A).

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The teachings of Awatsu et al. in view of Kasper have been discussed above with the exception of a power source being a rechargeable battery.

Kuel discloses an electronic lock (33) attached to a briefcase comprising a wireless receiver (3) and a rechargeable battery (32). The battery is recharged via an inductive charging port (pages 8 and 9). The rechargeable battery provides a user of the electronic locking system with a portability and extended life of a power source.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to an artisan of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate a portable and rechargeable power source of Kuel into the teachings of Awatsu et al. in view of Kasper for the purpose of promoting mobility to a container for storing valuable items such as the media cassette of Awatsu et al.

Conclusion


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Steven S. Paik whose telephone number is 571-272-2404. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 5:30a-2:00p (Maxi-Flex*).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael G. Lee can be reached on 571-272-2398. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

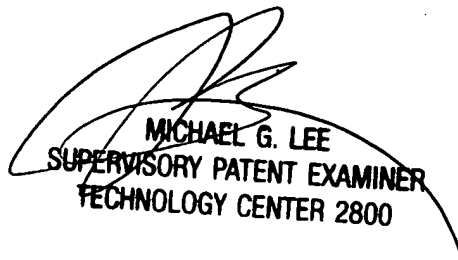
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system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Steven S. Paik
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2876

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